

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
) Conf. No. 7113
 Larry V. Streepy)
) Art Unit: 3626
 Application No.: 10/660,934)
) Examiner: Cobanoglu, Dilek B.
 Filed: September 12, 2003)
) Atty. Docket No.: 08022.0001U2

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTERFACING WITH A MULTI-LEVEL DATA STRUCTURE**

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS
 FOR ALLOWANCE FILED PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.104(e) and MPEP § 1302.14**

Commissioner for Patents
 Mail Stop Issue Fee
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 9, 2010

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(e) and MPEP § 1302.14, subsection V, the Applicant is submitting the following comments which are requested to be made part of the Official file history for this patent application:

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance that were attached to the Notice of Allowance mailed on October 5, 2009 DO NOT PROVIDE information that is equivalent or identical to the information contained in the application file in which the Examiner's Office actions and the Applicant's replies make evident the Examiner's reasons for allowing the claims.

The Examiner's Reasons for Allowance listed below do not clearly address the combination of elements presented in independent Claims .

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Issue Fee, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 9, 2010.

/SPW/

Steven P. Wigmore, Reg. No. 40,447

For clarity, the Applicant repeats the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance in the Office Communication of October 5, 2009 as follows:

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance of these claims is the inclusion of the limitations, in all of the claims which is not found in the prior art references, of displaying a first image in a first window with the display device comprising an alphanumeric string representing the selected medical concept; displaying one or more second images with the display device and along one or more respective geometrical rays originating from a central region of the first image, each second image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a parent concept of the selected medical concept and displaying a first symbol on the display device along each respective geometrical ray originating from the central region of the first image; displaying a billing code comprising an alphanumeric string in a second window adjacent to the first window with the display device, the billing code originating from a first medical source associated with the selected medical concept; displaying a medical code adjacent to the billing code in the second window with the display device, the medical code comprising an alphanumeric string originating from a second medical source that is different from the first medical source and is associated with the selected medical concept; receiving input comprising alphanumeric text through a third window on the display device; and modifying, removing or creating relationships between said medical concepts.

While the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance closely track independent Claim 31, the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance are not consistent with the two other allowed independent claims in this case. Specifically, the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance are not consistent with independent Claims 41 and 46. The Applicant has highlighted the terms of Claim 41 and 46 with

bolds, italics, and underlines below which highlight the differences relative to the Examiner's reasons for allowance as follows:

41. In a computer system, a computer-implemented method for displaying relationships between medical databases on a display device, the computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving a selection of a medical concept with a computer for display on the display device;

in response to the selection, the computer:

displaying a first image in a first window with the display device comprising an alphanumeric string representing the selected medical concept;

displaying one or more second images with the display device and along one or more respective geometrical rays originating from a central region of the first image, each second image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a parent concept of the selected medical concept and displaying a first symbol on the display device along each respective geometrical ray originating from the central region of the first image;

displaying a health care management term comprising an alphanumeric string in a second window adjacent to the first window with the display device, the health care management term being associated with the selected medical concept;

displaying a medical procedure comprising an alphanumeric string in a third window adjacent to the first and second windows with the display device, the medical procedure being associated with the first medical concept; and

receiving input comprising alphanumeric text through a fourth window on the display device; and

modifying, removing, or creating relationships between said medical concepts.

46. In a computer system, a computer-implemented method for displaying relationships between medical databases on a display device, the computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving a selection of a medical concept with a computer for display on the display device;

in response to the selection, the computer:

displaying a first image in a first window with the display device comprising an alphanumeric string representing the selected medical concept;

displaying one or more second images with the display device and along one or more respective geometrical rays originating from a central region of the first image, each second image comprising an alphanumeric string representing a parent concept of the selected medical concept and displaying a first symbol on the display device along each respective geometrical ray originating from the central region of the first image;

displaying a first medical code comprising an alphanumeric string in a second window adjacent to the first window with the display device, the first medical code being associated with the medical concept;

displaying a second medical code comprising an alphanumeric string in the second window adjacent to the first medical code with the display device, the second medical code being associated with the medical concept; and

receiving input comprising alphanumeric text through a third window on the display device; and

modifying, removing, or creating relationships between said medical concepts.

The Applicant understands that the Examiner was paraphrasing several elements of the claims in his Reasons for Allowance so that he did not have the burden of re-writing many of the elements in their entirety. However, the Applicant notes that the Examiner has inadvertently characterized each allowed independent claim being identical with respect to its terms and claim scope.

The Applicant submits that other examples of these differences between the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance and the actual claim terms may exist and thus, the examples noted by the Applicant above are not exhaustive.

The Applicant is submitting these comments so that if the claims listed above are ever

litigated, it will be understood that the independent claims of this application have varying degrees of scope and unique combinations of elements that are not found in the prior art AND which may not be correctly set forth in the Examiner's paraphrasing of the independent patent claims in the Reasons for Allowance.

Conclusion

In light of the remarks and full listing of the independent claims above, it is clear that the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance that were attached to the Notice of Allowance mailed on October 5, 2009 DO NOT PROVIDE information that is equivalent or identical to the information contained in the application file in which the Examiner's Office actions and the Applicants' replies make evident the Examiner's reasons for allowing the claims.

This paper makes it apparent that each allowed independent claim has a unique combination of elements that is patentable over the prior art of record.

Respectfully submitted,
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